

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06784 290415Z
ACTION PA-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5648

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM BREWSTER

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: SPEAKING INVITATION FOR THE SECRETARY

1. I HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM FRITZ BEER, PRESIDENT OF THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION IN LONDON, INVITING THE SECRETARY TO BE THE GUEST OF HONOUR AND SPEAKER AT AN ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON WHEN HE IS IN LONDON IN JUNE. ACCORDING TO BEER, THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN AT THE REQUEST OF THE SECRETARY FOLLOWING A CONVERSATION THE SECRETARY HAD DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO LONDON WITH THE HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION, SYED MUSTAFA.

BEER SAYS THAT THE SECRETARY INDICATED TO MR. MUSTAFA HIS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION OF THIS KIND.

2. I RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY ACCEPT THE INVITATION IF HE CAN FIND THE TIME. THE ECHOES AND REECHOES FROM THE SECRETARY'S BACKGROUNDER HERE APRIL 18 WITH SELECTED EDITORS INDICATE THAT IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. I BELIEVE THAT IN THE WAKE OF THE NATO SUMMIT, WHILE THE UNSSOD IS GOING ON AND PRIOR TO THE BONN SUMMIT, WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR A MAJOR SPEECH IN LONDON ON U.S.-EUROPEAN RELATIONS, TOUCHING ON THE PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC AND
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SECURITY QUESTIONS. THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION IS ONE OF THE MAJOR PRESS ORGANIZATIONS IN LONDON AND IT IS THE ONLY ONE WHICH HAS MEMBERS DRAWN FROM THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORPS RESIDENT IN THIS CITY, INCLUDING EUROPEAN, AMERICAN AND SOME BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS. MORE THAN FIFTY COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED IN ITS MEMBERSHIP. THEREFORE, IT CAN

PROVIDE ONE OF THE BEST PLATFORMS IN LONDON FOR REACHING
A EUROPEAN AND WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE FROM HERE. FOR

MAXIMUM MEDIA COVERAGE, THE SPEECH SHOULD, OF COURSE, BE
ON-THE-RECORD, WITH AN EMBARGOED, ADVANCE TEXT AVAILABLE
FOR DISTRIBUTION.

3. IN MAKING THIS RECOMMENDATION, I HAVE CONSIDERED A
VARIETY OF POSSIBLE OTHER FORA AMONG GENERAL GROUPS
INTERESTED IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INCLUDING IISS, CHATHAM
HOUSE, PILGRIMS, ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION, EUROPEAN-
ATLANTIC GROUP, FOREIGN AFFAIRS CLUB, AND MID-ATLANTIC
CLUB. AMONG PRESS GROUPS, THERE ARE ALSO THE BRITISH
DIPLOMATIC AND COMMONWEALTH WRITERS ASSOCIATION, THE
PRESS CLUB AND THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS
IN LONDON. AFTER CONSIDERING THE ADVANTAGES AND
DISADVANTAGES OF ALL OF THESE GROUPS, I HAVE CONCLUDED
THAT THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION IS THE BEST ONE FOR
THE PURPOSE.

4. IF A FORMAL APPEARANCE BEFORE THE FOREIGN PRESS
ASSOCIATION IS NOT FEASIBLE, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE
HIGHLY DESIRABLE WHILE HE IS HERE FOR THE SECRETARY TO

HAVE AN INFORMAL OFF-THE-RECORD SESSION, UNDER CHATHAM
HOUSE OR SIMILAR AUSPICES, BUT WITH A GROUP GOING
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BEYOND THE NORMAL CHATHAM HOUSE CLIENTELE.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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